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1857

# Reports of the Auditors Upon the Financial Affairs of the Town of York, and of the Superintending School Committee for the Year Ending March, 1857

York (Me.)

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REPORTS  
OF THE  
AUDITORS  
UPON THE  
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS  
OF THE  
TOWN OF YORK,  
AND OF THE  
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE:  
FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1857.

PORTSMOUTH:  
C. W. DREWSTER & SON, PRINTERS,  
1857.



DEC 4 1939



182693

## AUDITORS' REPORT.

Total amount of Receipts into the Treasury,	6145 85
“ “ Disbursements from “	6148 83
	<hr/>
Balance due the Treasurer,	2 98
The Receipts have been from the following sources :	
Town's proportion of State school fund,	372 24
Amount of assessments for the year 1856,	5744 65
“ tax received of John Lewis and als. for 1855,	19 00
“ rec'd of Joseph Bragdon, Jr. for rents of Town house,	9 96
	<hr/>
	\$6,145 85

### DISBURSEMENTS.

#### For Schools.

To District No. 1,	423 03	No. 2,	97 08
“ “ 3,	110 61	“ 4,	99 83
“ “ 5,	191 79	“ 6,	110 61
“ “ 8,	57 17	“ 9,	132 64
“ “ 10,	92 55	“ 11,	231 28
“ “ 12,	142 22	“ 13,	186 42
“ “ 14,	121 90	“ 15,	175 66
			<hr/>
			2,172 24

#### Roads & Bridges.

Paid Samuel Berry for plank for Rice's Bridge,	28 18
“ James Grant, for services as Com'r on Clay Hill,	3 00
“ John Y. Lucas, for labor & mate'ls for Rices' Bridge,	4 75
“ Littlefield & Co. for plank for York Bridge,	17 56
“ Timothy Furbish, for labor and materials, and hoisting draw of Rice's Bridge,	71 86

Paid Geo. Moulton, Jr. for labor and materials, and hoisting draw of Sewall's Bridge,	67 95	
" Joseph Bradbury, hoisting draw Rice's Bridge, '55,	2 50	
" Nath'l Preble, labor & materials for Chase's Bridge,	9 50	
" Samuel W. Norton, for repairing highways,	6 90	
" Jona. Talpey, for plank and labor on Cape Neddock Bridge,	5 64	
" Charles C. Barrell, for plank for Barrell's Bridge,	2 65	
" Samuel Webber, for plank for bridge near Weare's,	6 19	
" James Grant, for repairs on Scotland Bridge,	1 75	
" Alex'r Dennett, (agent) rebuilding Sewall's Bridge in part,	760 00	
" Benj. Kimball, for labor on Rice's Bridge,	2 25	
" Alex'r Dennett, (agent) in full, rebuilding Sewall's Bridge,	208 62	
		1200 30

### Salaries of Town Officers.

Paid Josiah D. Bragdon as Selectman,	17 00	
" Theodore Wilson "	17 00	
" Rufus A. Moody "	17 00	
" Edgar A. McIntire as Town Clerk,	5 00	
" Nath'l G. Marshall as Constable,	10 00	
" do. " Treasurer,	7 00	
" Morris Holman as Sup. School Committee,	22 62	
" Wm. A. Patten " " " "	30 00	
" Jeremiah S. Putnam, " " " "	34 00	
		159 62

### Abatements of Taxes.

To Joseph Harris, his poll tax, being over 70,	94	
" Nahum Winn, (not liable)	94	
		1 88
To Nath'l G. Marshall, Collector for 1856 :		
George Adams, (overtaxed)	4 48	
Oliver Averill, (pauper)	1 00	
John Averill, "	1 00	
George Avery, (in Mass.)	1 00	
Charles Brooks, (not liable)	2 16	
Benj. O. Fletcher's heirs,	81	
John Norton, Jr. (overtaxed)	50	
George Mugridge, "	62	
Hiram Perkins, (error)	1 62	
George Perkins, (moved off)	1 00	
Robert B. Tripe, "	2 08	
Charles Chase, (overtaxed)	1 83	
Oliver Dixon, Jr. (not liable)	1 00	
Jeremiah Norman, (poor)	1 00	
		21 10
		22 98

**Miscellaneous Bills.**

Paid George Bowden, as follows :

For amount paid Eastman & Leland, their fees in suit	
Ivory Winn v. the town,	\$5 42
"    "    Betsy Lucas, in full for her suit v. town,	30 00
"    "    Town of Unity, to settle suit v. this town,	65 00
Bowden's bill for travelling to Unity, in suit v. town,	17 75
Attorney's fees in said suit,	26 00
13 days services of himself in said suit,	26 00
his expenses during said 13 days,	15 00
11 sheets paper 11c, 11 letter stamps 33c,	44
his services settling suit Betsy Lucas v. Ivory Winn,	2 00
his services settling suit Ivory Winn v. the town,	5 00
his services going to Saco and Alfred, in suit Ivory	
Junkins v. the town,	14 00
	<hr/> 206 61

Paid Samuel Hanscom, for damages sustained by his  
wife at "Barrell's Bridge."

Pelatiah Perkins for damages sustained at "Rice's Bridge."	70 00
" for printing Town Reports and Teacher's certificates,	4 00
"    "    Tax receipts and notices,	31 50
Commissions, collecting \$5744.65 taxes, at 1½ per cent.	4 50
Six per cent. discount on taxes paid to Sept. 15, 1856,	86 17
Three per cent. discount on taxes paid, to Dec. 20, 1856,	295 11
Paid Josiah D. Bragdon extra service as Selectman, and	10 98
wood and stationery,	2 05
Rufus A. Moody extra service as selectman,	2 00
Alex. Dennett am't expended for pile-driver & fixtures,	60 01
same services as Auditor, 1855,	1 50
John B. Fernald for services as Auditor, 1855	1 50
for stationery for Town Clerk's office,	12
Stephen Grant for entertaining town officers,	5 50
interest on bal. due School District No. 1, for 1855,	6 09

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\$787 64**Support of the Poor.**Amount drawn from the Treasury by the Overseers of  
the Poor, as per their account,

579 38

**Other Items.**

Amount of State tax paid,	\$1038 88
"    of County tax paid,	937 77
Paid the balance against the town in 1855, per report of that year,	392 11
Amount allowed the collector for returned tax v. Cyrus K. Conant & als.	8.64
Same against Alpheus Hanscom's heirs,	65
"    "    Oliver Dixon, Jr.	32

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9 61

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2378 37

## RECAPITULATION.

### Disbursements.

For Schools,	2172 24
“ Roads and Bridges,	1200 30
“ Salaries of Town officers,	159 62
“ Abatements of taxes,	22 98
“ Miscellaneous Bills,	787 64
“ Support of Poor,	579 38
“ other items,	2378 37
	7300 53

### Receipts.

Amount of Receipts, per Treasurer's account,	6145 85
Liabilities of the town, to balance,	1154 68
	7300 53

The liabilities consist of the following items :

#### OUTSTANDING ORDERS.

No. 56 J. S. Putnam,	\$233.03	No. 57 Storer Trafton,	\$75.00
No. 59 Ashael Goodwin,	100.00	No. 60 Ashael Goodwin,	63.23
No. 67 Timo. Furbish,	61.33	No. 73 Eben'r Chapman,	13.81
No. 74 Storer Trafton,	15.64	No. 75 Benj. Kimball,	2.25
No. 82 Alex'r Dennett,	27.50	No. 83 Alex'r Dennett,	60.01
No. 84 Same,	181.12	No. 88 J. S. Putnam,	34.00
			866 92

#### OVERSEERS' ORDERS.

No. 4 John S. Grant,	13.01	No. 6 Ash'el Goodwin,	\$20.25
No. 7 E. A. Bragdon,	47.61	No. 8 R. Varrell, Jr.	66.59
No. 9 Theo. Beal,	86.33	No. 10 Albert Brooks,	13.20
		No. 11 John B. Fernald,	37.79
			284 78
Balance due the Treasurer,			2 98
			1154 68

From which may be deducted the following resources :

Returned tax v. Cyrus K. Conant & als.	8 64
“ v. Alpheus Hanscom's heirs	65
“ v. Oliver Dixon, Jr.	32
Note against Mrs. Hannah Bridges,	22 50
	32 11
Leaving a balance against the town of	1122 57

The Committee visited the Town Farm and Almshouse, and were pleased to observe the perfect order and neatness which the establishment exhibited; evincing untiring indus-



try and assiduity on the part of the Superintendent and his lady, in the discharge of their duties to the unfortunate individuals under their care.

We found on hand,

20 tons English hay 260,00; 1 ton mixed hay 8,00,	268 00
4 oxen 260,00; 4 cows 120,00; 1 heifer 12,00,	392 00
3 swine 70,00; 14 1-8 cords wood at 3,00,	112 37
80 bushels Potatoes 60,00; 1 bbl. pork 23,00,	83 00
1 bbl. beef 15,00; 3 bbls. soap 9,00,	24 00
83 bush. corn 83,00; 46 bush. barley 46,00,	129 00
9 bush. beans 18,00; 7 bush. corn meal 7,00,	25 00
4 1-2 bush. barley meal 4,50; 27 lbs. lard 4,05; 20 lbs. butter 4,40,	12 95
14 lbs. candles 2,10; 1 bush. salt 40c,	2 50
6 yds. denims 72; 10 yds. calico 1,00; thread 20c,	1 92
1 bag salt 20c; 250 lbs. fish 7,50,	7 70
29 galls. molasses 14,50; 3-4 bbl. flour 6,00,	20 50
2 1-2 lbs. tea 1,00; 3 lbs. coffee 37c,	1 37
1 chest tools 15,00; 150 loads manure,	165 00
	<hr/>
	1245 31
Amount of stock and provisions on hand last year,	1025 00
	<hr/>
Excess,	\$220 31

It will be seen that the liabilities of the Town, as compared with 1855, have been increased in the sum of 730 46; the greater part of which has arisen from an increased expenditure on Roads and Bridges of 157 71; an increase of money drawn from the Treasury for the support of the Poor of 350 75, and an increase on the "miscellaneous bills" of 108 19—these three amounts making 616 65. The greater part of the increased draft on the treasury by the Overseers of the Poor, is however, in fact cancelled by the excess of value of articles on hand at this time, over the value of articles in 1855—that excess being 220 31. We estimate also that hay, to the amount of \$150, can be sold, and sufficient left for the stock, which sum may be reckoned as an immediate asset.

Of the "miscellaneous bills," 206 61 has been expended in various lawsuits, some of which, to say the least, were (in our opinion) groundless, and have been settled without having in view the interest of the Town.



The accounts of the Selectmen and Overseers exhibited their usual accuracy and good economy. We would urge the importance of adhering to the present method of collecting taxes, in view of the small amount of abatements made; which we attribute mostly to the present mode, although a good collector may have contributed much to its success.

For the reason that we cannot foresee what appropriations the town may make at its annual meeting, we forbear to recommend any particular sum to be raised to defray the expenses of the coming year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ALEX'R DENNETT,  
JOSEPH WEARE,  
EDWARD A. BRAGDON, } AUDITORS.

York, March 12, 1857.

## THE TOWN OF YORK

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE

## OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

1856-7 to March 12th. (At Alms-House.)

Dr.

To 55 lbs rice, 3 10 ; 85 lbs fresh meat, 5 87 ; 10 lbs saleratus, 67 ;	9 64
matches, 16 ; pepper, 16 ; spice, 10 ; soda, 25 ; potash, 60 ;	1 27
6 qts oil, 1 68 ; 75 lbs coffee, 9 38 ; 13 lbs tea, 7 11 ; 30½ sugar, \$3 ;	21 17
88 galls molasses, 40 49 ; 1506 lbs salt fish, 33 42 ;	73 91
136 lbs fresh fish, 2 23 ; 1 bbl pork, 22 00 ; 1 bbl mackerel, 6 00 ;	30 23
55 lbs mackerel, 1 92 ; 3 bags salt, 71 ; 5 bu salt, 2 58 ;	5 21
3 bbls flour, 23 75 ; salt petre, 12 ; carrot seed, 47 ;	24 34
7¼ yds cotton flannel, 99 ; 98¾ yds cotton cloth, 9 05 ;	10 04
50 yds thin cloth, 6 65 ; 17 yds satinet, 10 40 ;	17 05
111 yds calico, 7 85 ; 18 lbs batting, 1 60 ; thread, 83 ;	10 28
19 skeins yarn, 1 48 ; wicking, 08 ; 3 bed cords, 99 ;	2 55
1 pr boots, 2 50 ; 2 prs shoes, 1 98 ; 1 pr mittens, 20 ;	4 68
1 pork bbl, 40 ; molasses bbl, 60 ; 1 keg, 88 ; 5 chambers, 1 30 ;	3 18

25 lbs tobacco, 5 00 ; 2 cards, 22 ; 3 rakes, 60 ;	5 82
2 scythes, 1 75 ; 2 rifles, 16 ; 3 hoes, 1 62 ; 1 shovel, 1 25 ;	4 78
1 manure fork, 1 00 ; 1 trap, 37 ; 2 baskets, 1 00 ;	2 37
1 bu hay seed, 4 00 ; 9 doz buttons, 49 ; 10 lbs nails, 50,	4 99
knives and forks, 50 ; plates, 37 ; 3 bowls, 24 ; crackers, 25 ;	1 36
butts and screws, 30 ; 2 padlocks, 50 ; 8 sqrs glass, 28 ;	1 08
stuff for carts, 2 60 ; repairs on plough, 89 ;	3 49
cultivating, 2 31 ; tolls, 30 : 4 cow ties, 1 33 ;	3 94
23½ cords wood, 7 50 ; use of bull, 1 33 ;	8 83
pd Benj. F. Donnell for right of way,	2 12
horse and wagon to Portsmouth and tolls, and going to George	
McIntire's, 1 50 ; coopering, 20 ;	1 70
465 ft lumber, 5 58 ; sexton's bill for 1855, 2 00 ;	7 58
blacksmith bills, 15 72 ; shoe bill, 13 01 ;	28 73
23¼ cds wood, 46 50 ; butchering, 67 ; winnowing machine, 81 ;	47 98
	<hr/> 338 32
pd for 2 yokes of oxen, 217 50 ; for 1 cow, 25 00 ;	242 50

*Salaries.*

Theodore Beal, (superintendent,) \$175 ; overseers' salary, \$24 ;	199 00
	<hr/> 779 82

*( Out of Alms house. )*

pd So. Berwick for support of Sarah Allen,	10 00
Going to So. Berwick to attend same,	3 00
pd So. Berwick for support of B. Austin and family in 1855-6, 30 00	
going to So. Berwick to attend to same,	3 00
paid Wm. Parsons for taking care of Samuel Freeman, and	
returning him to alms house from Wells,	2 75
going to So. Berwick in relation to Charlas O. Ramsdell,	3 00
horse, wagon, &c. to bring Oliver Averill's wife to alms house,	75
horse, wagon & services, twice to Geo. McIntire's, in relation	
to his wife Clarissa,	2 00
pd. exp. of Clarissa McIntire to, at & from insane hospital,	86 38
paid Wm Moody for support of his brother to Apl 1, 1857,	29 83
paid Stephon E. Grant for himself and team to So. Berwick	
to bring B. Austin and family to York,	4 00
	<hr/> 174 66
Amounting to	954 48

	Contra.	Cr.
1856-7 to March 12th.		
By cash for 33½ bu potatoes sold,		10 72
1 yoke of oxen 125 00 ; 6 pigs, 18 00 :		143 00
1 pig, 2 50 ; 43½ bu potatoes, 10 01 ;		12 51
1 yoke of oxen, 145 00 ; 10 bu barley, 8 67 ;		153 67
80 lbs hide, 6 00 ; pasturing, 50 ;		6 50
1 calf, 3 00 ; 30 loads muck, 5 00 ;		8 00
hauling freight—for Jas Donnel 3 00, for J P Junkins 2 89 ;		5 89
“ wood for Mrs. Lord, 33 ; meal, 20 ;		53
straw for beds, 16 ; 3½ bu beans, 7 87 ;		8 03
labor of Mr. Beal and team, hauling 15 M. logs for A. Goodwin & Co.		26 25
		<u>375 10</u>
Order on the Treasurer, No. 1, 29 83 ; No. 2, 10 00 ;		39 83
“ “ 3, 240 00 ; “ 4, 13 01 ;		253 01
“ “ 5, 14 77 ; “ 6, 20 25 ;		35 02
“ “ 7, 47 61 ; “ 8, 66 59 ;		114 20
“ “ 9, 86 33 ; “ 10, 13 20 ;		99 53
“ “ 11, (to balance,)		37 79
		<u>579 38</u>
		954 48

N. B.—We had nothing to do with the settlement of the suits—Town of Unity vs. the Town of York, and Ivory Winn vs. the Town, nor the Betsey Lucas affair ; and refer you to the doings of the Town Agent, as seen by his bills rendered to the Selectmen.

Average number of inmates of the Alms House, 15 ; deaths, none.

Respectfully submitted.

York, March 12, 1857.

JOHN B. FERNALD, }  
 SAM'L P. YOUNG. } Overseers.  
 FRANCIS PREBLE, }

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**REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**OF THE**  
**TOWN OF YORK,**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH,**  
**1857.**

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**R E P O R T**  
OF THE  
**SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1857.

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The Superintending School Committee of York, in compliance with the provisions of the Statute, respectfully submit their Fifteenth Annual Report.

The number of children between the ages of 4 and 21 years, returned to the selectmen, by the agents of their respective Districts, on the 1st day of May, 1856, is 1116

Registered in Summer schools,	684
Number of scholars constant and regular in attendance during Summer terms,	316
Number which were not constant or regular,	368
Number of scholars punctual in attendance in Summer schools,	483
Number of scholars late in attendance in Summer schools,	201
Registered in the Winter schools	573
Number of scholars constant and regular in Winter schools,	313
Number of scholars neither constant or regular in Winter schools,	260
Number of scholars punctual in attendance on Winter schools,	404

Number of scholars late in attendance in Winter schools,	169
Average number of scholars, constant and regular in their attendance, in each of our schools, Summer and Winter,	22
Whole number of scholars registered in Winter that were not registered in Summer,	132
There appears to have been in attendance upon our schools, either in Summer or Winter, an aggregate of	816
Leaving <i>absentees</i> from our schools either Summer or Winter,	300

and *absentees* are reported from the several Districts as follows:—District No. 1, 88; No. 2, 16; No. 3, 2; No. 4, 14; No. 5, 25; No. 6, 9; No. 8, 5; No. 9, 32; No. 10, 12; No. 11, 47; No. 12, 15; No. 13, 27; No. 14, 9; No. 15, 19. The average length of our Summer schools was 13 weeks. The average length of our Winter schools was 12 1-2 weeks. Average wages of female teachers per week, including board, \$3.40. Average wages of male teachers per month, including board, \$31.00.

Following previous usages, the Committee present the state and condition of each school in the several Districts.

#### CENTRE DISTRICT—No. 1.

*J. S. Putnam, Agent.*

No. of scholars returned, 236. Amount of money appropriated, \$423.03.

##### PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Summer term, Miss Tryphena J. Remick, teacher. Fall term, Miss Mercy A. Adams, teacher.

This school in the Summer, as also in the Fall term, was composed of about 51 scholars, under the age of 9 years, well attended and marked by ability, gentleness, patience and aptness, on the part of the teachers, and much advancement, docility, love of school and teachers, on the part of the pupils.



## ADVANCED SCHOOL.

Summer term, Miss Susan Patten teacher. Winter term, Mr. Samuel G. Goodhue teacher.

The school in summer, as also in winter, was composed of those scholars only who had reached the age of nine years. There were 61 registered in the summer school, 17 of whom were inconstant and very irregular in their attendance. For the rest, much of improvement was apparent. It was obvious that the teacher, by going back to first principles or rudiments, succeeded in bringing forth good readers. And in this regard the school exhibited much improvement; and more than in former terms. The recitations, also, in the several branches of learning pursued, were commendable.

The winter term commenced in October, and is still protracted. It has a register of 86 scholars, of whom about 65 are in constant attendance. Whether we regard the unwearied efforts of the teacher, his exemplary character, or the general good deportment and studious diligence of the scholars, we cannot refrain from the expression of our gratification at the results witnessed.

## RAYNES' NECK DISTRICT—No. 2.

*Eben Chapman, Agent.*

No. of scholars returned, 49. Money appropriated, \$110.61.

Summer term, Miss Abbie M. Chapman teacher. Winter term, Mr. John Page teacher.

There were registered in the summer term 23 scholars, mostly small. From the appearance of the school at the several examinations, we think the teacher in a first effort had a pleasant and profitable one.

In the winter 27 scholars were registered, of whom 15 were constant in their attendance. The moral and religious influence of this teacher, both in and out of school, was such as should receive the commendation of all. As a teacher, he needs more *vivacity* and less *monotony*. The scholars of this District are respectful, and conduct themselves with much propriety. They were studious and made commendable improvement, both in the summer and winter terms.

## SOUTH SIDE DISTRICT No. 3.

*Henry S. Thompson, Agent.*

No. of Scholars returned, 43. Money appropriated, \$97.08.

Summer term, Miss Ellen M. Dennett teacher. Winter term, Mr. J. Howard Cutts teacher.

41 scholars attended the summer term, about 17 of whom were constant. The teacher succeeded very well in this her first attempt, and her labors were attended with success. We think the teacher in the winter term deserves censure. He *could* keep a good school, but he *did not*. He failed to give to the school that interest which he was obligated to do. He was not punctual in his own attendance; and, when in the school, there was a want of *steady purpose* and *firm principle* in the inculcation of knowledge, and the enforcement of virtuous habits. He failed to impress upon the school the importance of the work in which they were engaged, and the *moral dignity* of his own work as a teacher. Consequently, the school at its close, in its recitations, &c. did not appear as well as it did one year ago. We think the fault entirely in the teacher.

## SCOTLAND DISTRICT—No. 4.

*James Grant, Agent.*

No. of scholars returned, 44. Money appropriated, \$99.33.

Summer term, Miss Frances J. Twombly teacher. Winter term, Mr. Joseph H. Moody teacher.

There were registered in the summer term only 24 scholars of the 44 returned, of whom it appears, by the register returned, only 7 were constant. The committee regret that the attendance of the scholars was less regular and constant it seems to us it might and ought to have been. We think the school quite profitable to those who properly attended. The teacher seemed to manifest an aptness for her work.

And in the winter term, we are constrained to repeat our regret that the irregular attendance of too many during this term, also, utterly forbid all hope of any improvement on the part of those who thus deprived themselves of the privileges of the school. Those who attended were manifestly profited.

It were earnestly to be desired that parents would seek the true interests of their children, and endeavor to perform their duty to society and their Maker, in securing the advantages of a common school education.

### BRIXHAM DISTRICT—No. 5.

*Jeremiah Paul, Agent.*

No. of scholars returned, 107. Money appropriated, \$191.79.

Summer term, Miss Lizzie Rogers teacher; Primary school, Miss Lizzie Rogers. Winter term, Mr. John D. Frost teacher.

We regard this summer term as among the profitable terms of the school. The teacher manifested a rare tact in its management, and secured that good order so indispensable to the success of a school. And at the close we were not disappointed in our just expectations of marked progress in the various branches studied. But in regard to the attendance, though there were 65 scholars registered, no more than 15 were regular and constant in their attendance, and 20 when in attendance were not punctual, and generally late. This inconstancy in attendance and want of punctuality, is of itself an evil which ought to be remedied. The fall term was taught also by Miss Rogers, in which were included only those under 10 years of age. This we regard as a successful effort also. It was well managed, and a commendable degree of improvement was witnessed at the close.

The winter term registered 50 scholars, of whom only 6 were in constant and regular attendance, while 44 were inconstant and very irregular in attendance. The committee, at the close of the school, were gratified in noticing several very bright and promising scholars who have made rapid advancement; while quite a large proportion have improved very little if any. To the parents we look for the cure of this evil of irregular attendance. And permit us to ask, of what benefit is the instruction of your teachers, if they must go to an empty school house to impart it?

## BEECH RIDGE DISTRICT—No. 6.

*Horace W. McIntire, Agent.*

No. of scholars returned, 49. Money appropriated, \$110.61.

Summer term, Miss Louisa J. Came teacher. Winter term, Mr. Richard L. Cook teacher.

There were registered in the summer 35 scholars, about half of whom were very regular in their attendance. The school was successful. We witnessed improvement in the various studies pursued. The effort was one highly creditable and encouraging to the teacher as the commencement of her labors in this pursuit.

There were registered in the winter term 26 scholars, 23 of whom were very regular in their attendance. We witnessed improvement in the various studies pursued. The discipline of the school was correct and efficient, and we could not but regret that the term must end at the close of a period of only seven weeks from its commencement.

## DISTRICT No. 7.—Scholars numbered in No. 5.

## NORTH VILLAGE DISTRICT—No. 8.

*Woodbury Wilson, Agent.*

Fall and only term, Miss Pamela A. Furbish teacher.

No. of scholars returned, 25. Money appropriated \$57.17.

There were registered 30 scholars in this term, nearly one-half of whom were residents of Wells. 18 scholars attended regularly and the remainder inconstantly. The teacher devoted herself most faithfully to the interests of the school, and was very successful in her efforts, giving satisfaction to the District and to the committee.

## GROUND ROOT HILL WEST DISTRICT No. 9.

*Storer Trafton, Agent.*

No. scholars returned; 74. Money appropriated, \$132.64.

Summer term, Miss Miranda K. Rankin teacher. Winter term, Mr. David Moulton, Jr. teacher.

In the summer term there were 27 scholars registered. Among the pupils present at the first, as at the last examinations, were many bright and promising children, who, though somewhat irregular and inconstant in their attendance, made a very considerable advancement in reading and spelling, and other branches of learning pursued.

In the winter term we find 36 scholars registered, 22 of whom were constant and regular in their attendance, and a very satisfactory improvement was witnessed. And though we are compelled to report a large number of *absentees*, (not so many, however, as in former years,) we are persuaded that the parents in this district are awaking up to their true interests; and were it not that in the early period of the term there was a peculiar state or condition of things in some of the families, which may be called *disease* or not, as people fancy, yet it probably detained several at home, who, under different circumstances, would have attended.

## GROUND ROOT HILL EAST DISTRICT—No. 10.

*Oliver Ramsdell, Agent.*

No. scholars returned, 40. Money appropriated, \$92.55.

Summer term, Miss Julia M. Junkins teacher. Winter term, Mr. C. L. Mildram teacher.

There were registered in the summer term 30 scholars, 14 of whom were constant in their attendance. It was a first effort of the teacher, and her school, composed principally of small children, made a very good progress in the first rudiments of learning. We anticipate success in the future efforts of the teacher.

The winter term, in our judgment, was a *failure* in every respect.

## CAPE NEDDOCK EAST DISTRICT—No. 11.

*Asahel Goodwin, Agent.*

No. of scholars returned 129. Amount of money appropriated \$231 23.

Summer term, Miss Harriet M. Chase, teacher. Winter term, Mr. John W. Greene, teacher.

At the commencement of the Summer term there was a large attendance of 63 scholars, but before its close, from some imaginary or real evil the attendance was small; therefore much advantage which should have been realized from the school was lost.

The Winter term commenced apparently under very favorable auspices. The teacher was well qualified to teach, and a good disciplinarian. We were pleased with the interest he manifested in all the studies and in all the scholars, even to the a-b-c-d-arians. But by some means, after a time, the interest was stayed and at the close of the school there was a small attendance, and at the examination our expectations were not met. We cannot make the teacher the *scape-goat* of the District. We have no complaint to make against Mr. Greene as a *teacher*; although in him, as in some of our other teachers, we would desire a much higher moral and religious influence. If for the last year and more, the schools in this District have not met the expectations of the Committee and the District, we think the fault is somewhere else rather than in your teachers.

The Agent deserves commendation for his willing and ready efforts to serve the District. He has placed in the pleasant school room a very fine set of Bliss' Outline Maps and a beautiful Globe. He has aimed to employ good teachers, and been willing to pay them a liberal compensation. Still there has not been that success in the schools which might justly have been expected. We are of opinion that the fault is with the parents. It is no uncommon thing for them to allow their children to remain at home, or even to leave school for some trifling, exaggerated matter. In a majority of cases the only reason is, they are required to *learn* their lessons and *obey* the rules of the school. If the scholar is called to account and punished for remissness of duty;—either the punishment or the man-

ner of inflicting it is often made a matter of sore complaint. Sometimes these misjudging parents are so forgetful of their own and their children's interests, that they maliciously attack committee, agent, teacher, school, and all who would sustain order and the character of the school. It seems to us that such parents are not aware of the extent of the injury they are inflicting upon their own children. In countenancing the violation of *school law* they are encouraging the violation of *civil law*. They may be preparing their children for the prison's gloomy cell, and themselves for the lashings of a sleepless and troubled conscience. A law compelling parents to send to, and keep their children in, the District school as long as is for their good, would not, in our judgment, be too arbitrary. False judgment is sometimes passed upon good teachers with slight evidence.—Better go to the school house in school hours, as you have a right to do, and carefully and impartially scrutinize the sayings and doings there practiced; after which decide and act wisely and charitably. The best teachers can do but little in our schools, unless they have the co-operation and sympathy of the District.

#### SCITUATE DISTRICT—No. 12.

*Josiah Chase, Agent.*

No. of scholars returned, 63. Amount of money appropriated, \$142 22.

Summer term, Miss Mercy A. Adams, teacher. Winter term, Mr. Charles H. Chapman, teacher.

In the summer term we found 39 scholars registered, of whom 19 were constant and regular in their attendance. The school was well governed, not with austerity, but gentleness and christian fidelity; and merit is due to both teacher and scholar: to the one for her successful efforts; to the other for the improvement witnessed.

In the Fall and Winter term, 42 scholars were registered, of whom about 30 attended regularly. It was a successful effort. Good order was observed. The scholars were studious and must have realized the advantageous result in a satisfactory improvement.



## CIDER HILL DISTRICT—No. 13.

*William Gowen, Agent.*

No. of scholars returned, 104. Amount of money appropriated, \$186 42.

Summer term, Miss Julia Young, teacher. Winter term, Mr. Charles J. Hutchins, teacher.

The teacher in the Summer had an aggregate of 70 scholars, not more than one-third of whom were constant and regular in their attendance. The teacher apparently labored diligently and manifested a desire for the improvement of the scholars. But the committee regret to be unable to state that in our opinion the school made any very perceptible advancement, either in order and discipline, or the studies pursued. We think it possible that the teacher labored under some disadvantage in this case in being in her own district.

In the winter term there were registered 72 scholars, not more than half of whom attended constantly. It was apparently a very happy and successful effort. We witnessed improvement in the studies pursued, especially in the reading classes, which seemed very desirable in this school.—The management of the school was highly satisfactory to the committee.

## PINE HILL DISTRICT—No. 14.

*Micajah Perkins, Agent.*

No. of scholars returned, 54. Amount of money appropriated, \$121 90.

Summer term, Miss Mary O. Thompson, teacher. Winter term, Mr. Theodore Wilson, teacher.

In the Summer were registered 30 scholars, about one half of whom attended regularly. We found the school at the commencement in a flourishing condition. The teacher, in a first essay, elicited much readiness and tact in her efforts to impart instruction, and was successful, as was witnessed in the good order and improvement of the school.

In the Winter term there were 32 scholars registered, of whom 25 were in constant and regular attendance. It is apparent that the teacher possesses a rare faculty of keeping a good school. We perceive it in his earnest labors for the improvement of his pupils; in his strictness tempered with kindness; and in his success as a teacher. The school has been well attended and has resulted in very manifest improvement of all the classes. As much attention was given to reading and spelling, it was observed that a very commendable progress and improvement have been made in these most important branches of learning. The recitations also in arithmetic and other branches were prompt and satisfactory. It is evident that Mr. W. has the confidence of his pupils, and of the District, from the fact that the citizens very liberally taxed themselves to continue the school another month.

#### CAPE NEDDOCK EAST DISTRICT—No. 15.

*Rufus Talpey, Agent.*

No. of scholars returned, 98. Amount of money appropriated, \$175 66.

Summer term, Miss Mary Ann Talpey, teacher. Winter term, Mr. Eben. Chapman, Jr., teacher.

The school in summer registered 59. 40 scholars attended regularly and constantly. In regard to constancy of attendance, this is the best record of any of our summer schools. The teacher sustained her previous reputation as a successful one, as evinced in the manifest advancement of the school, at the closing examination.

In the winter term we find registered 65 scholars, about 50 of whom were constant in attendance. We would incidentally notice, as a matter of regret, some half a dozen boys, upon perceiving that the Committee were about visiting the school at its closing examination, retired therefrom. The school as a whole has made considerable improvement, and is deserving of merit for the regular and constant attendance of its scholars.

Thus, fellow-citizens, you have our report. We have endeavored to discharge our duty to you, to the teachers, and to the children. We have refrained from setting down "aught in malice," and in naught extenuated.

JER' H. S. PUTNAM,  
MORRIS HOLMAN,  
WM. A. PATTEN,  
*Committee.*